

Page 14

Replace the paragraph beginning at line 7, with the following new paragraph:

B3
Sub C
(1) A web comprising the cellulosic fibers 3 having a fiber length of 0.1 to 15 mm is formed by an air-lay method, and the constituent fibers are bonded by fusion or with a binder at their intersections to form a liquid retentive sheet 4. Separately, a web comprising the thick thermoplastic fiber 2 is formed by an air-lay method, and the constituent fibers are bonded by fusion or with a binder at their intersections to form an air-laid nonwoven fabric 5. The air-laid nonwoven fabric 5 is superposed on one side of the liquid retentive sheet 4, and the two layers are united into one body by, for example, fusion bonding by heat embossing or ultrasonic embossing or with a hot-melt adhesive.--

REMARKS

As the examiner will note, certain changes have been made to the present application to correct certain inadvertent typographical errors, and to place the application into better form for U.S. patent practice.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

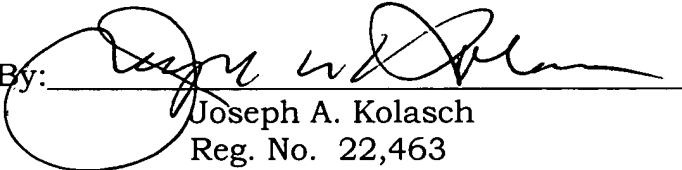
Conclusion

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Mr. Joseph A. Kolasch, Registration No. 22,463 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By: 
Joseph A. Kolasch
Reg. No. 22,463

JAK/clb

P. O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Enclosure: Marked Up Version of Amendments

MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Page 11

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 19, with the following new paragraph:

A second embodiment of the present invention will be illustrated with reference to Fig. 2. The second embodiment will be described in terms of differences from the first one. Otherwise, the description about the first embodiment applies appropriately. The same members as in Fig. 2[1] are given the same numerals as used in Fig. 1.

Page 12

Replace the paragraph beginning at line 8, with the following new paragraph:

--The thick thermoplastic fiber 2 content in the air-laid nonwoven fabric 5 preferably ranges 30 to 100% by weight, particularly 50 to 100% by weight, [especially 50 to 100% by weight,] to ensure capability of removing caked-on soils, such as denatured oil, baked substances and scale in a kitchen, and

sebum, scale, soap scum, dust in a bathroom. Other fibers which constitute the air-laid nonwoven fabric 5 in addition to the thick thermoplastic fiber 2 include thermoplastic fibers having a fineness of 0.5 to 5 dtex, particularly 1 to 3 dtex, and a fiber length of 2 to 15 mm, particularly 3 to 8 mm (hereinafter referred to as thin thermoplastic fibers). The content of the thin thermoplastic fibers in the air-laid nonwoven fabric 5 is preferably 1 to 50% by weight, particularly 5 to 30% by weight. The combined use of such thin thermoplastic fibers with the thick thermoplastic fibers 2 is preferred for decreasing the basis weight of the cleaning sheet 1 while retaining the scouring or scraping properties.--

Page 14

Replace the paragraph beginning at line 7, with the following new paragraph:

(1) A web comprising the cellulosic fibers 3 having a fiber length of 0.1 to 15 mm is formed by an air-lay method, and the constituent fibers are bonded by fusion or with a binder at their intersections to form a liquid retentive sheet 4. Separately, a web comprising the thick thermoplastic fiber [fibers] 2[3] is formed by an air-lay method, and the constituent fibers are bonded by fusion or with a binder at their intersections to form an air-laid nonwoven fabric 5. The air-laid nonwoven fabric 5 is superposed on one side of the liquid retentive sheet 4, and

the two layers are united into one body by, for example, fusion bonding by heat embossing or ultrasonic embossing or with a hot-melt adhesive.